5

10

15

20

25

Α,

## **CLAIMS**

- 1. Surgical needle (11) characterised by the fact that it is atraumatic, that it has two tips (12, 12') and that it consists of a tubular metal shaft, the central portion of which is equipped with a hole (10), through which emerges a surgical thread (13) that is anchored inside the needle (11).
- 2. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that its tips (12, 12') are bevelled in one or more oblique planes and that the hole (10) through which the thread passes involves only one wall of the hollow shaft.
- 3. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that one end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) of the needle (11) and is anchored by means of pinching.
  - 4. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the surgical thread (13) is equipped with a knot (14).
- 5. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) of the atraumatic two-tipped needle (11), is made to emerge from one end (12), is equipped with a knot (14) and is then drawn back inside the shaft towards the hole (10).
  - 6. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the surgical thread (13), equipped in advance with a knot (14), is inserted into one end of the needle (11) and is made to emerge through the hole (10).
  - 7. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) and is anchored inside the atraumatic two-tipped needle (11) by means of a scotch (15), which is pushed down inside the needle from one of the two ends (12, 12').
- 8. Needle (11) as claimed in claims 1 and 5, characterised by the fact that the scotch (15) may consist of a solid bar or a portion of tube, made of metal or plastic, the calibre of which is determined by the diameter of the needle (11).
- 9. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the scotch (15), when it has been placed in its final position, is anchored inside the needle (11) by pinching, or by means of glue (16) or other suitable fixing material.

5

10

- 10. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the surgical thread (13) is fixed to the needle (11) by means of a single- or dual-component glue or other solidifying material suited to the purpose.
- 11. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the end of the surgical thread (13) inserted into the hole (10) emerges from one end (12, 12') of the needle (11), and is inserted and fixed into a hole in one end of a scotch, which is subsequently inserted into the needle (11).
- 12. Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the surgical thread (13) is fixed between the coils of a tiny spring, which is then inserted into the atraumatic two-tipped needle (11).
- **13.** Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the fact that the surgical thread (13) is fixed by means of two or more anchoring techniques.